

Message Text

SECRET

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APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
NEA - MR. SAUNDERS
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TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE
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S E C R E T STATE 110073

NODIS
FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PGOV, IS, EG, US

SUBJECT: BRIEFING FOR SADAT ON THE SECRETARY'S TALKS WITH
DAYAN

1. YOU SHOULD INFORM SADAT THAT THE SECRETARY HAS IN-
STRUCTED YOU TO GIVE HIM A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON HIS TALKS
WITH DAYAN APRIL 26-27. IN DOING SO, YOU SHOULD MAKE THE
POINT THAT PRIME MINISTER BEGIN WILL BE HERE MONDAY, MAY 1,
AFTER WHICH WE WILL BE ANALYZING WHERE MATTERS STAND AS A
RESULT OF THIS ROUND OF TALKS WITH THE ISRAELIS AND WILL
THEN BE IN TOUCH WITH SADAT TO GIVE A FULLER REPORT AND
OUR THOUGHTS ON POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS. MEANWHILE, WE WANT
TO CONVEY THE FOLLOWING TO SADAT.

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2. SECRETARY HAD SIX HOURS OF INTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH
DAYAN, DURING WHICH WE HAD A THOROUGH REVIEW OF THE ISSUES.
IN THE COURSE OF THESE DISCUSSIONS, WE MADE CLEAR TO DAYAN
PRESIDENT SADAT'S POSITION ON THE NEED FOR MORE PRECISE
LANGUAGE ON THE WITHDRAWAL ISSUE IN THE DECLARATION OF
PRINCIPLES AND FOR MORE PRECISION WITH REGARD TO WHAT
WOULD HAPPEN AT THE END OF A FIVE-YEAR INTERIM PERIOD ON

THE WEST BANK AND GAZA. THE RECENT MEETING WHICH
ATHERTON HAD WITH PRESIDENT SADAT WAS EXTREMELY USEFUL TO
US AS BACKGROUND FOR THE SECRETARY'S MEETINGS WITH DAYAN.

3. DAYAN, FOR HIS PART, CONCENTRATED IN PARTICULAR ON
DESCRIBING HIS THINKING WITH REGARD TO THE NEGOTATION
OF PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WEST BANK AND GAZA,
EMPHASIZING THAT IN HIS VIEW IF AN UNDERSTANDING
COULD BE REACHED ON THESE QUESTIONS, IT MIGHT THEN BE
EASIER TO RESOLVE THE DIFFERENCES OVER THE FORMULATION
OF A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES. MEANWHILE, AS
ATHERTON PREDICTED IN HIS TALK WITH SADAT, DAYAN GAVE
NO INDICATION THAT ISRAEL WOULD BE PREPARED TO GO
BEYOND RESOLUTION 242 LANGUAGE ON WITHDRAWAL IN A
DECLARATION. OUR PRELIMINARY JUDGMENT IS THAT SOME
OF DAYAN'S THINKING ABOUT INTERIM OR TRANSITIONAL
WEST BANK/GAZA ARRANGEMENT CONTAINS IDEAS WHICH EGYPT
WOULD FIND WORTH EXPLORING. THE REAL PROBLEM, HOWEVER,
REMAINS WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT THE END OF THE FIVE-YEAR
PERIOD. WE PRESSED DAYAN VERY HARD ON THIS AND PUT
QUESTIONS TO HIM TO WHICH HE AGREED HE WOULD TRY TO
PROVIDE ANSWERS.

4. SECRETARY WANTS PRESIDENT SADAT TO KNOW THAT WE
DID NOT REACH ANY AGREEMENTS WITH DAYAN. WE HAD A
SEARCHING DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUES WITH THE ISRAELIS
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IN AN EFFORT TO BRING THEM TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THE
ESSENTIAL ISSUES, BUT WE DID NOT COME TO JOINT CON-
CLUSIONS, EITHER ON SUBSTANCE OR ON PROCEDURE. FOR
SADAT'S INFORMATION, DAYAN ASKED IF SECRETARY WOULD
TELL THE PRESS THAT THE U.S. AND ISRAEL HAD AGREED
ON HOW TO PROCEED, BUT THE SECRETARY LIMITED HIS
REMARKS TO THE PRESS TO SAYING THAT HE AND DAYAN HAD HAD
A THOROUGH DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUES. SECRETARY MADE
CLEAR TO DAYAN THAT WE WERE EXPECTING ANSWERS FROM THE
ISRAELIS TO THE QUESTIONS WE PUT TO HIM REGARDING WHAT
SHOULD HAPPEN AT THE END OF THE INTERIM PERIOD. VANCE

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